

REMARKS

The examiner objected to Applicant's claim numbering under 37 C.F.R. §1.126. Applicant has cancelled claim 2, and added new claim 9, which is similar to cancelled claim 2. Thus, the claims are now numbered appropriately.

The examiner rejected the claims under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,878,231 to Baehr et al., as "anticipated by Baehr". The examiner stated that Baehr "does not name logical addresses to the segments, [and] does not send physical addresses to the computer network". Applicant respectfully disagrees that Baehr anticipates the invention, as discussed in detail below.

According to conventional standards for internetworking, there are at least three types of addresses in a computer network, including physical, channel and network. The first two are also referred to as MAC (media access control) addresses. Network addresses are also referred to as logical addresses. An IP (internet protocol) address is one type of logical or network address attached to devices in order that the devices can identify and communicate with each other on a computer network using the Internet Protocol (IP) standard. A physical address is attached to most forms of computer networking equipment, such as network cards. Thus, a physical address is inherent to computer networking equipment, whether or not the equipment is on a network that uses the IP standard. This is very different from a network or logical address of a device, which is assigned to a device.

Applicant's screen is effective because it sends neither an IP (logical) nor a physical address to the network or the segments of the network (see paragraph [0009] of

"Clean Copy Of Substitute Specification"). Thus, the screen cannot be located by any tools of secured or open segments of the network. If Applicant's screen cannot be located by a tool, it is not possible to disable or otherwise affect the screen. This makes Applicant's screen superior to network screens that can be located, even those screens that have sophisticated means for limiting the probability of harm during an attack.

Baehr does not teach not to send physical addresses to the network. Indeed, the term "physical address" is absent from Baehr, as are the terms "MAC", "media" (a component of the term "MAC") and "channel" (another type of physical address). Instead, Baehr teaches not to send IP or other network or logical addresses to the network (as in column 5, lines 63-67, which the examiner cited as support). Applicant acknowledged in the discussion of the prior art (paragraph [0007]) that devices that do not send logical or network addresses are conventional. Baehr fails to teach at least one limitation of Applicant's invention.

Therefore, the claims are allowable under 35 U.S.C. §102. Because Baehr does not even suggest to consider the physical address of the screen, no motivation exists to modify Baehr's device to Applicant's claimed invention. Therefore, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

The examiner is authorized to communicate with the undersigned attorney by email by the following recommended authorization language: Recognizing that Internet communications are not secure, I hereby authorize the USPTO to communicate with me concerning any subject matter of this application by electronic mail. I understand that a

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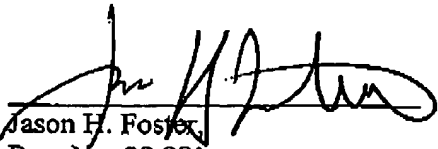
copy of these communications will be made of record in the application file.

(authorization pursuant to MPEP 502.03)

The Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 13-3393 for any insufficient fees under 37 CFR §§ 1.16 or 1.17, or credit any overpayment of fees.

Respectfully submitted,

17 November 2006
Date of Signature


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